Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-64. (Canceled).

65. (New) A method for the diagnosis of preeclampsia comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a sample from a woman in the second or third trimester of pregnancy;

b) determining the amount of a marker in the sample, wherein the maker is selected from the group consisting of:

i. a protein having an amino acid sequence as presented in SEQ ID NO: 4;

ii. a protein having an amino acid sequence exhibiting a sequence identity with any of the amino acid sequences according to i) of at least 95% over 100 amino acid residues;

iii. a nucleic acid encoding the amino acid of SEQ ID NO: 4;

iv. a nucleic acid having a sequence as presented in SEQ ID NO: 3; and

v. a nucleic acid having a sequence exhibiting a sequence identity with any of the nucleic acid sequences according to iv) of at least 95%;

c) comparing the determined amount of the marker with a reference amount derived from gestation age matched healthy women; and

d) establishing a diagnosis based on the result of step c), wherein a higher determined amount of the marker as compared to the reference amount of the marker is indicative of preeclampsia.

66. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the sample is obtained form the serum or plasma of the woman or from the placenta.

67. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the marker according to claim 65 is used in conjunction with a diagnostic agent for the measurement of expression of any of the genes or proteins selected from the group consisting of:

a) EPAS-1/HIF-2α;
b) neurokinin B;
c) TIMP-1;
d) VEGFR-1;
e) VEGF;
f) IGFBP-1;
g) IGFBP-3;
h) matrix metalloproteinase-2;
i) leptin;
j) PAI-1;
k) IGF-1;
l) angiopoetin-2;
m) decorin;
n) PlGF;
o) HLA-G;
p) HB-EGF;
q) TGF-β3;
r) MIFR-2;
s) LIM; and
t) EBI3;

and/or diagnostic tools for the measurement of blood pressure or protein content of the urine.

68. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the marker according to claim 65 is used in conjunction with a diagnostic agent for the measurement of expression of any of the genes or proteins selected from the group consisting of:

a) EPAS-1/HIF-2α;
b) neurokinin B;
c) TIMP-1;
d) VEGFR-1;
e) VEGF;
f) IGFBP-1;
g) IGFBP-3;
h) matrix metalloproteinase-2;
i) leptin;
j) PAI-1;
k) IGF-1;
l) angiopoetin-2;
m) decorin;
n) PlGF;
o) HLA-G;
p) HB-EGF;
q) TGF-β3;
r) MIFR-2;
s) LIM; and
t) EBI3;

and/or diagnostic tools for the measurement of blood pressure or protein content of the urine.

69. (New) A method of diagnosing a pregnant woman at increased risk of a disease selected from the group consisting of eclampsia, pregnancy induced hypertension, HELLP syndrome and intrauterine growth retardation, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a sample from the pregnant woman in the second or third trimester of pregnancy;

b) determining the amount of a marker selected from the group consisting of:

i. a protein having an amino acid sequence as presented in SEQ ID NO: 4;

ii. a protein having an amino acid sequence exhibiting a sequence identity with any of the amino acid sequences according to i) of at least 95% over 100 amino acid residues;

iii. a nucleic acid encoding the amino acid of SEQ ID NO: 4;

iv. a nucleic acid having a sequence as presented in SEQ ID NO: 3; and

v. a nucleic acid having a sequence exhibiting a sequence identity with any of the nucleic acid sequences according to iv) of at least 95%;

c) comparing the determined amount of the marker with a reference amount derived from gestation age matched healthy women; and

d) establishing a diagnosis based on the result of step c), wherein a higher determined amount of the marker as compared to the reference amount of the marker is indicative of an increased risk of at least one of eclampsia, pregnancy induced hypertension, HELLP syndrome and intrauterine growth retardation.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the sample is obtained form the serum or plasma of the pregnant woman or from the placenta.

71. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the marker according to claim 69 is used in conjunction with a diagnostic agent for the measurement of expression of any of the genes or proteins selected from the group consisting of:

a) EPAS-1/HIF-2α;
b) neurokinin B;
c) TIMP-1;
d) VEGFR-1;
e) VEGF;
f) IGFBP-1;
g) IGFBP-3;
h) matrix metalloproteinase-2;
i) leptin;
j) PAI-1;
k) IGF-1;
l) angiopoetin-2;
m) decorin;
n) PlGF;
o) HLA-G;
p) HB-EGF;
q) TGF-β3;
r) MIFR-2;
s) LIM; and
t) EBI3;

and/or diagnostic tools for the measurement of blood pressure or protein content of the urine.

72. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein the marker according to claim 69 is used in conjunction with a diagnostic agent for the measurement of expression of any of the genes or proteins selected from the group consisting of:

a) EPAS-1/HIF-2α;
b) neurokinin B;
c) TIMP-1;
d) VEGFR-1;
e) VEGF;
f) IGFBP-1;
g) IGFBP-3;
h) matrix metalloproteinase-2;
i) leptin;
j) PAI-1;
k) IGF-1;
l) angiopoetin-2;
m) decorin;
n) PlGF;
o) HLA-G;
p) HB-EGF;
q) TGF-β3;
r) MIFR-2;
s) LIM; and
t) EBI3;

and/or diagnostic tools for the measurement of blood pressure or protein content of the urine.